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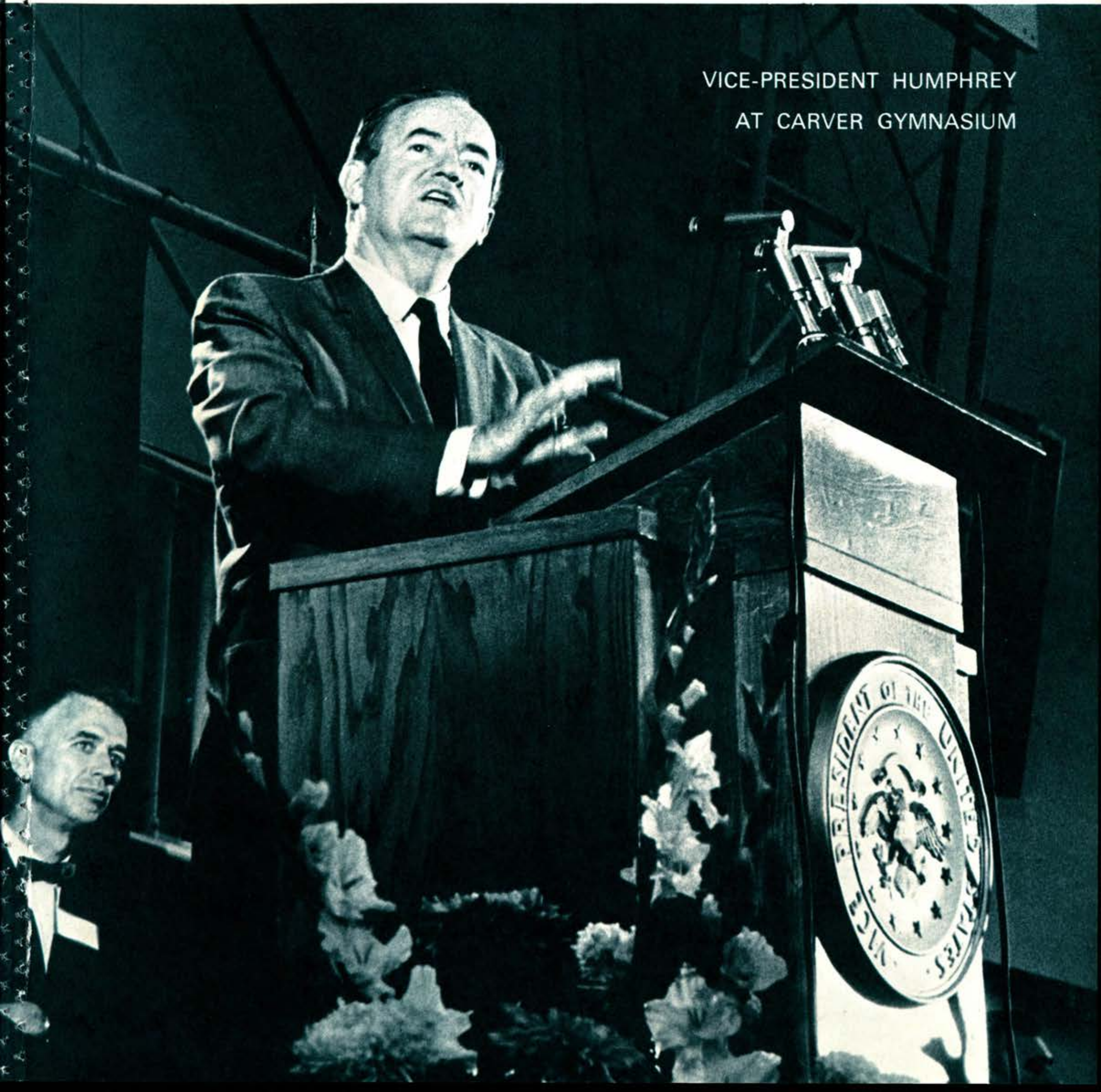
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WESTERN REPORTS

Alumni Review of
WESTERN WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE

October 1966

VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY
AT CARVER GYMNASIUM



WESTERN REPORTS

WESTERN WASHINGTON
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WESTERN REPORTS



THE COVER:

U. S. Vice-President Hubert Humphrey, on campus to present a federal award for excellence in the design of the Ridgeway Dormitories, tells a large crowd in Carver Gymnasium that the government is "determined to try to put some fresh spirit into architecture to stimulate and to reward

Nearly 4,000 persons packed Western's Carver Gymnasium Sept. 28 to hear Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey call upon "the volunteer generation" to build a better tomorrow.

Humphrey termed the men of the current generation the best military men ever to serve the nation and he had high praise for the thousands of youths who have joined the Peace Corps and VISTA.

The vice-president told his audience, which was largely comprised of students, that "it has been the special blessing of this land that each generation of Americans has called its own cadence, blazed its own path and written its own music. And if that is true, then our greatest songs are still unsung. There is a better tomorrow. The future is ours."

Detailing his hopes of a better tomorrow, Humphrey called space research the possible key to world peace and declared that "in less than 10 years we will be constructing buildings in space."

The prime purpose of the vice-president's visit to WWSC was to present a 1966 Honor Award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for excellence in the design of the Ridgeway Dormitories.

Humphrey Praises

In presenting the award to David Sprague, chairman of the WWSC Board of Trustees, Humphrey noted that "for many years you could be just about certain that any building financed in some way by the federal government would end up looking like a blockhouse.

"But, like a lot of other things, this is changing, too. There is no conflict of interest between practicality and beauty. We are determined to try to put some fresh spirit into architecture to stimulate and to reward excellence in design."

The Ridgeway Dormitories were among five buildings selected by HUD from among 350 original entrants to receive the award. The complex was designed by Fred Bassetti and Co. of Seattle.

Immediately following his remarks in the gym, where he was greeted by the Mount Baker High School Band, Humphrey waded into the crowd outside the building.

Though he was 30 minutes late arriving in Bellingham from Eugene, Ore., Humphrey took time to speak of the warm welcome and the great scenery of Northwest Washington to the nearly 2,000 persons who gathered to greet him at the airport.

Also on hand at the airport was the Bellingham High School Band and a group of youngsters with a sign reading, "Hi VP HHH."

The vice-president took advantage of the sign to remark on its content as compared to the hostile slogans which greeted him in Portland.

He also had high praise for Second District Congressman Lloyd Meeds and a few words about an old



Youth During Visit to Campus



friend—Barney Goltz of Western's Office of Planning and Development.

Because of the lateness of his arrival, a planned inspection of the Ridgeway Dormitory complex was cancelled and the vice-president went immediately from the airport to Carver Gymnasium.

There, unlike his hostile reception in Portland, Humphrey was greeted by a minimum of pickets and a maximum of warmth from college and Bellingham dignitaries.

WWSC President Harvey C. Bunke introduced Rep. Meeds, who presented the vice president to the audience.

(Top) Vice-President Hubert Humphrey waves vigorously as he and Western President Harvey C. Bunke respond to the applause of students and Bellingham residents who filled Carver Gymnasium to listen to Humphrey's remarks.

(Lower left) Young and old alike flash their favorite smiles as the vice-president wades into the enthusiastic crowd at Bellingham Airport.

(Lower right) Girl Scouts and other youngsters press against the airport fence as they give Vice-President Humphrey a warm welcome to Northwest Washington.

—Photos by Fred Walsh

POVERTY PROGRAMS ON CAMPUS

Poverty comes in many ways. It comes with hunger, with sadness, with ignorance and with hopelessness.

But last summer it came to the Western campus and it came to be beaten.

—With the assistance of funds from the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity and the Rockefeller Foundation.

—By the 25 teachers who studied better ways of teaching the poor in Project Headstart.

—By the 50 junior high school youngsters from rural Whatcom and Skagit Counties who participated in Project Catch-Up.

—By the 45 high school seniors who returned to the campus for a second summer in Project Overcome.

—By the 50 high school juniors who came to the campus from the bewilderment of deprivation in Tacoma and Pasco and on some of the state's Indian reservations.

It came to be beaten and it was. Soundly.

A \$36,852 OEO grant provided for an intensive eight-week training program for 25 selected and certified Northwest teachers who will be teaching the poor.

Project Headstart, directed by Dr. Bernice Skeen, professor of Education at Western and director of the Campus School, included lectures in sociology, anthropology, psychology, learning analysis and observation and participation in Headstart programs in Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish Counties.

A year ago there was a six-day orientation program for Project Headstart teachers on the campus. This year the program took another stride in helping the teachers to get poor children ready for public schools and to give them a better chance of succeeding in school.

On still another poverty battlefield, 50 of the youngest students Western ever has had in residence occupied two floors of Ridgeway Omega for six weeks.

The youngsters, seventh and eighth graders from rural and relatively small urban areas of Whatcom and Skagit Counties, were on campus to participate in Project Catch-Up.

The project, financed by a \$100,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, was directed by Evelyn P. Mason of the Psychology Department.

Sterling Brand, principal of Ferndale's Mountain View School, served as co-director and William J. Laidlaw of the Psychology Department served as a special consultant to the program which he prepared.

But the battle wasn't won by the program's staff members alone. It was won by the disadvantaged 13- and 14-year-old youngsters who received a new outlook through instruction in communication skills, reading, arithmetic, arts and sciences.

Educational, vocational and personal counseling also were called in to aid the junior high school youths. During the school year, follow-up work will be conducted by the staff.

And next summer the 50 participants are expected to return for more training. Along with them 50 new participants are expected to come to Western's campus.

Still other youngsters invaded the campus during the summer to continue the battle they had begun a year ago.

Under the aegis of a three-year OEO grant totalling \$264,102, 45 Project Overcome teenagers returned to Wes-

tern for the summer and stayed on as college freshmen this fall.

They, along with one other youngster who participated in the program last summer but spent this summer in Texas, were able to attend college under a work-study program financed by the OEO and through waiving of the usual admission requirements of the college.

Dr. Thomas Billings of the Education Department, director of the ambitious Project Overcome, reports that the program now faces a future which will last as long as funds from the OEO and local support hold out.

Along with the 45 second-year participants, the campus hosted 50 other high school juniors for their first summer of overcoming the difficulties which would have made college all but unattainable for them.

While most of the original Project Overcome participants came to the campus from Seattle or Indian reservations in the state, the 1966 novices came largely from the Pasco and Tacoma areas. This year, 13 of the students were Indians.

Some of the second year participants were enrolled in regular college courses during the summer under the supervision of the program's staff members.

But in addition to their academic activities, the students took a highly active role on the campus.

One was elected to the student's Summer Board of Control, three more elected to work on the college newspaper, The Collegian, about 50 took part in setting up a display of cardboard sculpture on the campus and still others joined in the presentation of two performances of a play titled, "The Lottery."

KUDER REASSIGNMENT

Dr. Merle S. Kuder, Dean of Students at Western for the past 30 years, will resign as dean as soon as a successor is found. A faculty committee presently is screening candidates.

Kuder, who asked to be relieved of some administrative duties in order to resume his teaching role as professor of education and of psychology, noted, "My real interest has always been in working closely with students, and by relinquishing some of my administrative duties, I hope to again realize that goal."

Until a successor is named, Kuder will remain as Dean of Students.

During his three decades of service, Kuder has lived by the philosophy that "Western has always been recognized as a 'student-centered' institution. We have

Merle Kuder



always been guided by the clear recognition that each student is unique, that each comes to college with a set of needs, goals, problems and experiences."

President Harvey C. Bunke, remarking on Kuder's request for reassignment, said that, "Dean Kuder has placed a lasting stamp on Western Washington State College. Although his contributions to this institution take many forms, his continuous insistence on the individual needs and abilities of each student has permeated the entire college, making Western a place where students develop emotionally and socially as they grow intellectually."

"I am pleased that he will, in the years ahead, continue to play a key role in student personnel services, which in our complex and rapidly changing world assume an ever more important role in assisting the student to prepare himself to meet the demands of the present world."

The son of a Presbyterian minister, Kuder comes from a family which has always been deeply involved in education.

His brother, G. Frederick Kuder of Durham, N. C., is the psychologist who devised the widely-used Kuder Activity Preference Scale, which is used to help students choose a career.

His son, James, also is an educator. He is school psychologist for the Bellevue school system.

The Kuder's other child, Mrs. George (Sally) Malby, served as an elementary school teacher for several years and now lives with her family in Santa Barbara, Calif.

In his years ahead, Dr. Kuder hopes to work closely in the classroom in student counselor education. He hopes, too, to be closely involved in the training of community college personnel, a field in which his many years of experience in student personnel administration is expected to stand him in good stead.

FACULTY NOTES

Dr. Pat Atteberry, chairman of the Industrial Arts Department at Western for 12 years, resigned in August to head the Department of Industrial Education at Oregon State University.

Dr. Sam R. Porter has been named acting chairman of the department here.

Atteberry, a native of Elkland, Mo., came to Western in 1954 from graduate school at the University of Missouri.

The department he came to head numbered four, including himself. Today, there are eight professional people in the department and last spring there were 175 students enrolled in industrial arts, with 40 of them graduate students.

During his stay at Western, Atteberry taught year-round and found time to publish two textbooks. This summer he was preparing another for publication.

Mrs. Atteberry also served Western as a lecturer in art. More recently she operated an art studio in the family home.

One of the couple's two married daughters was graduated from Western in 1958.

Atteberry took the post at OSU because of the challenge of developing an undergraduate and graduate pro-

gram in the historically mechanical and agricultural institution.

* * *

Dr. Charles M. North, former chairman of the Music Department at Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage, has taken over the chairmanship of Western's Music Department.

He replaces Dr. Frank D'Andrea who resigned to become chairman of the Music Department at Teachers College, Columbia University.

D'Andrea left Bellingham in late August to assume his new position in which he will head the master's and doctoral programs at Teachers College. He also will direct the music and teacher research program there.

D'Andrea, 52, a Pittsburgh native, arrived at Western in 1945. He came from a teaching post in Indiana (Pa.) State Teachers College.

Though he has been attracted to New York City by a combination of academic resources and musical opportunities available in the large city, D'Andrea intends to maintain his ties with Western and the Northwest by spending summers here.

D'Andrea and his wife, Magdalena, have a son, Brian, 14.

* * *

After an active career encompassing such diverse activities as a supervisor for the Boeing Company, vocational counseling and work in the Western registrar's office, Mrs. Dorothy Button has retired.

Mrs. Button, assistant registrar at the college for the past 11 years, is the daughter of Dr. Frank Deerwester, the former head of the departments of Psychology and Education at Western.

Prior to her service at the college, Mrs. Button served as a vocational counselor at Bellingham High School from 1945 to 1955. During World War II she was a women's counselor and supervisor for Boeing.

She attended the Normal Training School, predecessor to the Campus School at Western. She also was graduated from Bellingham High School and earned her master's degree from Western.

Her son, Ned, is head of the technical division for Rayonier Pulp and Timber Co. in Aberdeen.

Mrs. Button intends to maintain her home in Bellingham.

OUTSTANDING TEACHERS NAMED

Dr. Peter Elich, associate professor of Psychology, and Dr. Jean-Charles Seigneuret, assistant professor of French, were named the two top teachers of the 1965-66 academic year at Western.

Selected by the student body as winners of the Patricia Abel Outstanding Teacher Award, each received a \$100 award and a plaque. In addition, their names were inscribed on a plaque hung in the Viking Union.

The annual award was re-named this year in honor of the late Dr. Patricia Abel, who was noted for teaching excellence.

In addition to the awards received by the two professors, the students made another \$100 award in the name of each teacher to the Patricia Abel Memorial Book Fund at the Mabel Zoe Wilson Library.

PAINT OR PERISH!



Dave Chapman

It's not particularly easy for a house painter to display his work in an art gallery, what with the size of houses being what it is.

Nonetheless, Western's Dave Chapman, a professional house painter, managed to arouse quite a bit of comment on his work when it was displayed in the college art gallery.

Not a house, but a 4 foot by 6 foot piece of plywood which had been brushed by many a painter over the years as they tested their colors and new brushes.

Chapman was busy sloshing a fresh coat of paint onto a ventilator in the college art gallery one summer afternoon while an exhibit was in progress. Not one to be particularly impressed by modern art, Chapman decided he could outdo the best of them.

He went back to the paint shop that evening and brought out a multi-hued piece of plywood which had a row of holes bored into it along each side. Because of its airy structure, Chapman entitled the work, "Holes in Board," tacked a price tag of \$460.50 on it and signed it "Alexis Dufunkie."

He stole back to the exhibit and hung the piece with the other paintings.

Next day, despite his expectations that the work would be quickly removed, Chapman was amazed to see that it remained hanging.

Hovering in the background, he especially enjoyed overhearing some of the comments the work elicited.

"The artist must have had something on his mind, but what?" one woman remarked after gazing at the work for some time.

Still another patron appreciated "the novel use of color."

Chapman, his head awl with all the praise, interrupted one woman's remarks to attempt to arrange the sale of the work for his friend Dufunkie.

He failed to sell it, but harbored no ill feelings when he commented, "I respect her judgment. It was the best looking painting on the wall."

Perhaps it was, but it eventually wound up on the wall of an office in the Viking Union and, more recently, back in Chapman's possession.

Possibly it's headed for another art show.

i/t/a STUDIES REPORTED

If you can't read your child's writing and his spelling seems somewhat amiss, don't be alarmed. Chances are he's spelling with i/t/a.

I/t/a (initial teaching alphabet), otherwise known

as the New Augmented Roman Alphabet, is a 44-character device aimed at providing an easier beginning for children to read.

It has been used experimentally in the United Kingdom since 1961 and in late February, 1965 it came to the Western campus.

Advocates of i/t/a have claimed that children taught with the 44-letter alphabet transfer automatically to the standard alphabet with little difficulty and without special instruction.

Dr. Robert A. McCracken of Western's Education Department reasoned that if this claim were true, children taught with the traditional alphabet should be able to transfer from it to i/t/a, also without instruction. And if so, McCracken wondered, what level of reading achievement with the traditional alphabet was needed before children could transfer.

English speech, he explains, is comprised of some 40 basic sounds. Using the traditional alphabet, a child learning to read has only 26 symbols—actually 23 since the letters c, q and x really don't do anything—with which to make the sounds. With i/t/a, there are 44 symbols at the pupil's disposal—21 more tools to help form the various sounds.

Spelling with i/t/a is more regularly phonetic than with the traditional 26-letter alphabet. However, McCracken explains, in transferring from i/t/a to the traditional alphabet it is not entirely phonetic.

Supported by research funds made available by the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, McCracken set out to determine children's ability to transfer from the traditional alphabet to i/t/a.

Under his direction, 149 pupils at the Campus School and 24 from Bellingham's Geneva School were administered tests during a three-month period from late February through May, 1965.

The tests were given by 14 certified elementary school teachers, all of whom had special training in administering individual reading tests. All but one had at least a master's degree and all but two were familiar to the pupils.

The combination of tests measured many abilities of each child and permitted each to be grouped according to class, I.Q., mental age and reading achievement levels. McCracken analyzed statistically the relationship between class, general, I.Q., mental age, reading achievement levels and the child's ability to transfer from the traditional alphabet to i/t/a.

Summarizing his findings, McCracken found that the transfer from the traditional alphabet to i/t/a could be achieved without instruction.

"However," he noted, "pupils lost or regressed approximately one year in instructional reading level when transferring from traditional alphabet to i/t/a."

"There was no loss in comprehension ability when transferring in either oral or silent reading. There was a significant loss in speed of oral and speed of silent reading, in ability to read orally without error and in ability to pronounce words in context and in isolation."

A second study by McCracken, designed to determine the ability of first grade children to learn to read using the Early-to-Read i/t/a program, will be reported in the next six months.

GRANTS RECEIVED

The U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Water Resource Research recently awarded Western a \$37,817 grant for the continued study of Lake Whatcom.

Under terms of the grant, the federal monies are to be matched dollar-for-dollar from Western's budget and funds available from other local agencies.

Dr. Gerald Kraft, acting chairman of the biology department and director of the Institute of Fresh Water Studies, heads the project.

He explained that the grant will be used to gain an understanding of the factors which affect the movement of water, animals and plants, including bacteria in Lake Whatcom.

Western has been conducting a study of the lake for four years. The first two years of the study were supported by the City of Bellingham and the past two years by the college.

The study's purpose has been to understand Lake Whatcom—map it, determine the total volume of water, learn the seasonal occurrence of events such as stratification and turnover, and to chart the distribution of dissolved oxygen coliform bacteria (an indicator of fecal contamination) and other factors.

Dr. Herbert Taylor, Dean of Research, indicated the hope that Western will provide approximately \$36,000 of the matching funds while the community will provide the remainder.

The study began July 1 and will continue through June 30, 1969, Dr. Kraft said. The study was recommended by Bellingham Mayor John Westford's committee on joint college and community research.

* * *

Dr. Don J. Easterbrook, chairman of Western's geology department, received a \$20,000 National Science Foundation research grant in May.

The grant will support a two-year project for radio-isotope age determinations of Ice Age deposits in Northwest Washington and for the study of relationships of alpine glaciers in the Mt. Baker region to Ice Age glaciers in the Puget Lowland.

Easterbrook began field investigations during the summer and plans to conduct them again next summer in the northern Cascades and in the Puget Lowland and San Juan Islands. Laboratory work will be done during this and the next academic year.

CONFERENCE ATTRACTS TOP EDUCATORS

Some of the nation's top educators attended a five-day conference on Educational Research at the Local Level during the summer on the Western campus.

About 30 superintendents of schools, assistant superintendents and curriculum directors attended the meeting. The conference was sponsored by the State Department of Education, the college's Graduate School and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Dr. S. P. Kelly of the Education Department was the conference coordinator.

FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

(The following letter was written by Alumni President Art Runestrand and is addressed to alumni, faculty and friends of Western Washington State College)

For many years I have been working with the faculty and staff in various roles connected with the Alumni Association, hopefully to help build a valuable "arm" of the college—the Alumni Association; to assist worthy students through the scholarship program, and to promote the purposeful return of alumni to the Western campus.

These were objectives set down by the Association's Board of Directors in the corporate charter. They are goals to which all alumni can contribute time, energy and money to help achieve. I was fortunate in having the opportunity to help in attaining the first steps toward fulfillment of some of these.

At present, I am most concerned with our lack of success in membership commitments. More than 10,000 letters requesting financial support through a membership drive have netted only \$650 from 140 alumni to date.

Larry O'Donnell, the Alumni Association secretary and membership chairman, has set a financial goal of \$5,000 for this year. Attaining this goal would not in itself make the drive a success. Success in a membership drive will come through many alumni indicating their interest through a small financial investment in their association.

Why does the Alumni Association need \$5,000?

—We wish to provide activities for the alumni such as the annual spring banquet, special Homecoming events and special interest group reunions.

—Board member Arta Lawrence has proposed possibilities for an Alumni College which would be a part of the summer session at Western.

—We are committed to pay a part of the salary of the college alumni coordinator.

—We must support the causes of Western in this legislative session. The college will never be able to secure from the Legislature all of the funds needed to satisfy the demands. Western has so much potential in so many areas that only the most pressing are satisfied.

—The Alumni Association should be in a financial position to help the college.

The association has an aggressive Board of Directors. They have an effective leader in President-elect Fred Boede. They will need your active support this year to make the association a power source for use by the college administration, faculty, staff, trustees and student body.

Think about these possibilities:

1. The acquisition of property to provide a residence facility owned by Western alumni for use by visiting alumni and guests of the college.

2. Reunions of special interest groups, such as former ASB presidents, football team captains, college choir members, debaters, etc.

3. An endowment to provide the faculty and administration with funds to attract the top authority in any field to come to Western for a series of lectures or

to occupy an endowed chair in a department for a year.

4. A monthly newsletter to provide a more adequate source of up-to-date information for members of the Alumni Association.

To make these or any other ideas come to reality, the association will need your ideas, energy, enthusiasm and your membership contribution.

Some 10,000 alumni bonded together through an Alumni Association should be able to render a valuable service in the growth program of our college. Please volunteer your support through the Western Alumni Office.

I wish to extend a special note of appreciation to George Fallis who for so many years devoted so much time and energy to effectively leading the activities of the association.

Speaking for the Board, I wish to thank President Bunke and Barney Goltz for creating a climate of acceptance for the activities of the alumni and for their time and energy given to help us grow.

HOMEcoming OPENS NOV. 2

The campus will come alive to the sounds of music on Wednesday, Nov. 2, when the 1966 Homecoming celebration swings into action with Royalty Revue at 8 p.m. in the College Auditorium.

With the theme of "Charade," the annual event, which this year honors the classes of 1916 and 1941, will feature four days of concerts, balls, rallies and football.

The Royalty Revue on Wednesday will feature the presentation of candidates for the Homecoming Court and will be interspersed with skits and other student entertainment.

From 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3, students will cast ballots for their choice for Queen of the festivities.

The coronation of the Homecoming Court at 8 p.m. Thursday will climax the election day activities. At the coronation, the Viking team and its coaches will be introduced. Immediately after the coronation, the royalty will be honored at a reception in the Viking Union Lounge.

A giant bonfire pep rally in the 21st Street parking lot about 6 p.m. will signal the start of Friday night's activities.

At 8 p.m., "We Five" and "Sergio Mendes & Brasil '66" will appear in concert in Carver Gymnasium. Mendes' group will add a Latin flavor to the program while "We Five" provides a repertoire of folk rock music. Admission is \$2 a person.

On Saturday, Nov. 5, alumni will be honored at a reception in the Viking Union Lounge beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Then at 10:30 a.m. the spectacular Homecoming Parade will move the day's celebration a little closer to the 1:30 p.m. kickoff at Civic Field when the Eastern Washington State College Savages invade Bellingham with the hopes of toppling the Vikings for a second time this season.

Representatives of the silver and golden year alumni classes will participate in the parade and all alumni from those years are invited to look in on the Queen's Ball

at 8 p.m. Saturday.

From 5 to 7 p.m. there will be a smorgasbord in the Viking Commons and at 7 p.m. alumni will gather in the Viking Union for a general meeting. At the meeting, President-elect Fred Boede of Edmonds will take the gavel from outgoing Alumni Association President Art Runestrand of Bellingham.

Boede teaches social studies, English and French at Edmonds Junior High School. Since being graduated from Western in 1959, he has done graduate work here and at the University of Washington. He also has found time to take two trips to Europe and to study French while he was there.

At 9 p.m. Saturday, the annual Homecoming Cabaret Dance will get under way in the Elk's Lodge with Mel McKee and his Orchestra providing the sounds for the 10th consecutive year.

Tickets will be available at the door and after the first 350 are sold, admission will be on a standing room only basis.

HOMEcoming SCHEDULE

Friday, Nov. 4 — Bonfire, Pep Rally, 6 p.m., 21st Street Parking Lot. Homecoming Concert, 8 p.m., Carver Gymnasium.

Saturday, Nov. 5 — Alumni Reception, 9:30 a.m., Viking Union. Parade, Downtown, 10:30 a.m. Football Game, Western vs. Eastern Washington State College, 1:30 p.m. Civic Field. Smorgasbord, 5-7 p.m., Viking Commons. Alumni Association General Meeting, 7 p.m., Viking Union. Cabaret Dance, 9 p.m., Elk's Lodge.

G. MASON HALL HONORED

The Distinguished Alumnus Award from Western was presented to G. Mason Hall of Edmonds, during Commencement exercises in Carver Gym June 10.

Hall, a graduate of the Class of '22, was honored for services as a teacher and administrator in the public schools of the state of Washington and the nation. He is director of secondary education for District 15 (Edmonds) Schools.

The award was presented on behalf of the Board of Trustees, the faculty and alumni of the college.

EX-OFFICERS' WORKSHOP PLANNED

Art Runestrand, out-going president of the Alumni Association, has suggested to the Board of Directors that plans be made for a February workshop for former student body officers.

Runestrand's plan, if adopted, would have former student body presidents, officers and legislators return to the campus for a look at what they began and what actions have been taken on their programs.

If the gathering gets the Board's approval, it probably will be staged in conjunction with one of the Vikings' home basketball weekends.

POET CARVES HIS WAY

A king-size Western alumnus rapidly is carving himself into a king-size figure of notoriety and perhaps legitimate notice with a chain-saw, a love of poetry and a non-conformist habit of working when needed and living as he feels.

Mike McVay, a 27-year-old native of Spokane who came within a hair of being graduated from Western with a bachelor's degree in literature in 1961, has latched onto one of the Northwest's symbolic tools with a grip few others have attempted before.

Using a bulky, fast-cutting chain-saw, McVay has tackled projects small and large as he carves his way through tree after tree to produce some magnificently bold wood carvings ranging from wall plaques to a colossal 24-foot wooden replica of Paul Bunyan.

While the chips fly furiously near his Dallas, Ore. home, McVay explains that "the chain-saw eliminates all the barriers of dimension. You can carve as big as you want to. It's just a whole lot speedier than an old chisel going chip, chip, chip."

In a few hours with his saw he can create carvings which would take weeks or even months to develop with the traditional mallet and chisel of old.

The craft of chain-saw carving originated in the Northwest about a decade ago. It is a skill which requires great strength and stamina. One in which the carver must maintain precise control over the maverick saw to maneuver it both in the large sweeping strokes required to block out a piece of work and in the small, delicate cuts needed to put the final details on an intricate carving.

McVay is a big, rugged guy who looks like a logger or a football player—both of which he has been.

Writing poetry is one of his milder, though most rewarding, pastimes. He calls it a demanding art. "Poetry in a sense holds out the same challenge woodcarving does. There's a certain irreducible quality about a poetic phrase. It couldn't be said any other way."

A voracious reader, McVay's library of 3,000 volumes covers a vast range of subjects and his conversation is spiced with allusions to both the classics and contemporary writers. He has given poetry readings several times before senior English classes at Willamette University.

A non-conformist who lives the kind of life that suits him, McVay eats when he pleases, works when he feels like working. He may work around the clock or he may not work at all for a few days; it depends mostly on whether he finds the work challenging at the moment and on how desperately he needs money.

Seldom letting work interfere with pleasure, he throws frequent impromptu parties which last until the food and drink are gone. His relationship with his small-town neighbors is, in a word, strained.

He takes great delight in the notoriety he has achieved and was hugely amused when a letter addressed merely to "The Great White God of Dallas, Oregon" was delivered to him without hesitation.

McVay's work and his mind and his creative impulses are fused with the green of Oregon's Willamette Valley, the profusion of spring flowers, the wilderness



Mike McVay



of northern Idaho, the high country of Montana, the rugged coastline of the Pacific.

His fascination with the Northwest and his understanding of its wild creatures are perhaps nowhere more apparent than in a pair of magnificent eagles he carved this spring. Each of the birds, if its wings were outspread, would measure more than 10 feet across—larger than lifesize. Months of research and planning went into their design.

Each bird is lifting itself with a powerful thrust of its huge wings, ready to pounce on its prey. The slight turn of the forward-thrust head brings the viewer within range of one hypnotic eye.

McVay has caught the independent spirit of the eagle, its tremendous power and its grace. The grain of the spruce they are carved from seems to fall naturally into the pattern of the feathers.

To hear him tell of watching from atop a mile-high cliff in Montana as birds like these soared high above the canyon floor, but still below him, makes a listener realize how much McVay identifies with his work, how great an influence his feelings have on his carving.

"They're not afraid of anything," he says. "You get the idea that if one of these birds faced a fire-breathing dragon, the dragon would come out second-best."

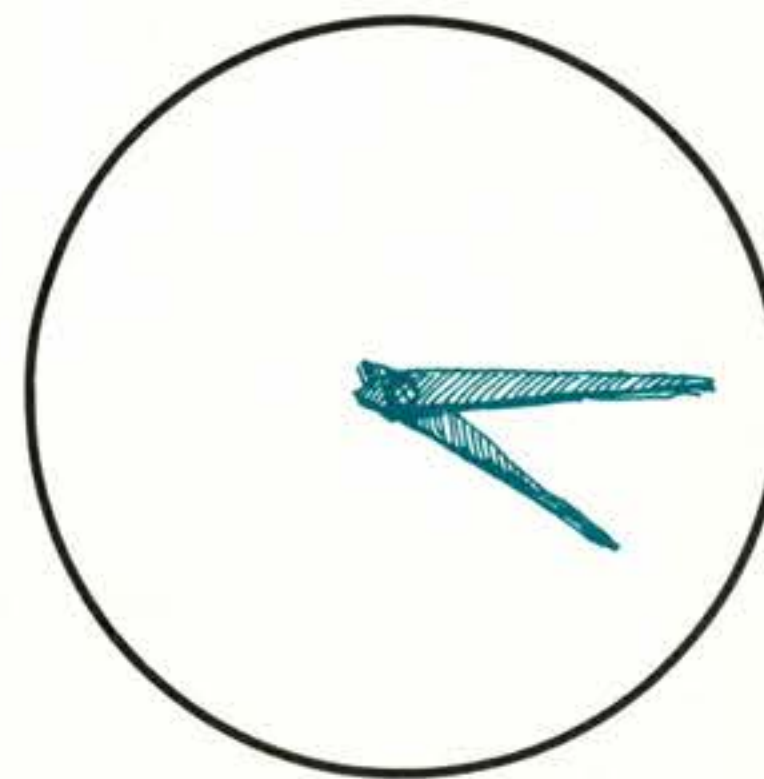
So there with his chain-saw, books and poems, is Mike McVay: young, handsome, educated, obstinate, impatient, sometimes querulous and unquestionably talented.

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THE TIME IS NOW

Referendum 15 is a \$40 million bond issue on the November 8 ballot. It will finance 30 urgently needed building projects at state universities, colleges, and institutions— *including \$1,704,000 for an Education-Psychology Building and \$1,167,000 for a Library addition at Western.*

Referendum 15 is a non-partisan issue that carries the endorsement of virtually all political, professional, business and labor groups in the state.

VOTE



REFERENDUM



ON NOVEMBER 8